

Welcome to another edition of Broadsheet please distribute this to all interested people.

Intellectual Disability Support Services

A special Board meeting will be held at 10am on Tuesday 24 October at the DHB Office on Braemar Campus, Nelson to consider a recommendation that has been developed following the consultation and review of Intellectual Disability Support Services in Nelson. There will be a public forum to start the meeting at 10am.

The agenda for the meeting is available on www.nmdhb.govt.nz under Published Documents, in Board and Committee Meetings.

Disability Support Advisory Committee

The NMDHB Disability Support Advisory Committee will now meet at 12 noon in Nelson on Tuesday October 24 not as scheduled in Blenheim on that day.

Marlborough Rural Health Services Review

In the first stage of the Marlborough Rural Review NMDHB is exploring the continuation of services in Waitaria Bay through piloting greater use of a Primary Health Care Nurse.

This is one of the outcomes of the first of five stages of the review of health services for rural communities in Marlborough. The review will look firstly at Havelock and Central Sounds and then Rai Valley/French Pass; Picton and Queen Charlotte Sound; Seddon and Awatere Valley; and the Wairau Valley. It is expected that the first stage will be completed by December 2006.

NMDHB General Manager Primary and Community Health Peter Burton said, "It has been made clear that the communities of Havelock and the Central Sounds support the continuity of services in the Central Sounds and the DHB is working with private practice to make this a reality."

The DHB is talking to Springlands Health regarding further services in Waitaria Bay. Under the project a Primary Health Care Nurse would undertake appropriate aspects of assessment and treatment; screening and prevention; and health promotion and self-care.

"The Primary Health Care Nurse is a role that has been developed well on the West Coast, where a nurse operates in a rural community with communication and oversight by General Practice. They often combine the nursing skills of District Nurse, Public Health Nurse, Practice Nurse and Well Child Nurse.

"Over the course of the Review we will learn more about the demand for the service, and what needs to be included in a health service role in this area," said Mr Burton.

A preliminary meeting has also been held with a Rai Valley group.

Working with Local Authorities (LAs)

It was proposed at the Board meeting held on 10 October that the Board work with LAs to align the DHB strategic planning with the community outcomes of the councils' Long Term Council Community Plans (LTCCP). A meeting will be held with Marlborough District Council in late October to begin this process.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging

The first MRI scan was performed at Nelson Hospital on Monday 16 October.

During this week NMDHB staff are being used as "patients" while radiology staff undergo training. A specialist MRI technologist has been employed to oversee the operation of the MRI, and the training of radiology staff.

On Tuesday October 24 the first referred patient will go through the MRI. Public and private sessions will occur on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday of that week. There will be four patients per session to allow familiarisation and slow build up of patients per session.

MRI technology has been introduced to Nelson Hospital through a partnership between Nelson Radiology Ltd and NMDHB.

NMDHB Chief Operating Officer Keith Rusholme said, "This technology is welcomed by clinicians and patients

as it eliminates the need for patients to travel to Christchurch or Wellington for this means of diagnosis. The MRI will have a positive impact on the patient journey in acute and elective services."

Nelson Radiology Ltd manager, Peter Faulkner, said, "It is pleasing to get to this stage at last, after so much work has been put into the new service by both NRL and NMDHB staff as well as the engineers and tradespeople who installed the machine and configured the new room."



Vicky McQuillan guides the first MRI "patient" James Brown, from Nelson Hospital Radiology, into the scanner.

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Hospital Advisory
Committee Meets:

Nelson
1pm Tuesday
7 Nov 2006

Disability Sup-
port Advisory
Committee Meets:

Nelson
12 noon Tuesday
24 Oct 2006

Community and
Public Health
Advisory Com-
mittee Meets:

Blenheim
1pm Tuesday
31 Oct 2006

District Health
Board

Special Meeting

Nelson
10am Tuesday
24 Oct 2006